AN ORDINANCE

BY: COUNCILMEMBER CLAIR MULLER.

AN ORDINANCE TO REPLACE DIVISION
7., ENTITLED "ANIMAL-DRAWN VEHICLES",
SECTIONS 162-146 THROUGH 162-161, OF
CHAPTER 162 OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA'S
CODE OF ORDINANCES, WITH NEW
LANGUAGE, SO AS TO STRENGTHEN
REGULATIONS IN THIS TRADE; AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, regulation of horse drawn carriages for hire in urban areas is necessary to protect the safety and well being of horses, as well as to protect the safety of passengers and the public from traffic hazards created by these vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the nature of the horse precludes him to be a high risk in congested, high intensity urban environments, which are most unnatural to his senses, and impose unnatural demands on his physical well-being; and

WHEREAS, the operation of carriages by owners and drivers who have not demonstrated a basic knowledge of the proper care, handling and maintenance of horses, proper and safe driving techniques and the laws and regulations governing the operation of carriages, increases the risk that horses will be overworked and treated inhumanely, and passengers, pedestrians and motorists will be injured, and property will sustain damage; and

WHEREAS, the high rate of accidents, the difficulty in obtaining adequate liability insurance, the nature of the vehicle which is open, fragile, and contains no seat belts, and is propelled by a creature whose natural instincts are to flee, demands that restrictions and regulations be imposed on the operation of horse drawn carriages for the safety of all concerned.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA that the existing regulations for animal-drawn carriages, which is covered in Division 7., Sections 162-146 through 162-161, of Chapter 162 of the City of Atlanta's Code of Ordinances, be replaced, and the following language be used as a guideline in preparation of the new sections:

Atlanta City Council

Regular Session

MULTIPLE

Public Safety Ordinances #1 thru #17 Execept #8, #11, 18; Resol #1 through #2 \pm 1) 98-C-1906 FILE

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ABSTENTIONS: 0
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SECTION ONE - DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this act, the term:

(1) "SPCA" means Agents of the Fulton County Society of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

(2) "Carriage" means any four-wheeled device in, upon or by which any person may be transported, designed to be drawn by one (1) horse, and designed to hold

four (4) passengers only.

(3) "Horse" means any animal of the genus equus which is of draft type used for the purpose of driving, pulling, or hauling a carriage and weighs at least 1100 pounds. Ponies, Thoroughbreds and Standardbreds are not allowed.

(4) "Custodian" means a person who has the immediate possession, bailment, custody, use, or control of a horse. For the purposes of this act, the term "custodian"

includes a driver.

(5) "Drive" means the process of operating, transporting, driving, pulling, or hauling a horse-drawn carriage.

(6) "Driver" means a person licensed to drive, steer, transport, or operate a

carriage or horse used in the horse-drawn carriage trade.

(7) "Driver's license" means a valid document issued by the Mayor to operate a motor vehicle.

(8) "Horse-drawn carriage trade" means a person or business that operates an enterprise, for hire, or as a contractual service, for the purpose of conveying persons along designated routes within the Atlanta downtown area.

(9) "Identification card" means a document devised, supplied, and certified by the Director of BUREAU, and signed and dated by a licensed equine veterinarian which

shall include:

(A) The date of the last physical examination of the horse;

(B) A physical description of the horse, including sex, age, height color, markings, and any other information that may facilitate identification of the horse;

(C) The stamina and physical condition of the horse;

(D) Any condition that might restrict or affect the use or movement of the horse;

(E) A photograph of the horse;

(F) An identification number;

(G) The name, address, and telephone number of the establishment where the horse is stabled; and

(H) The name, address, and telephone number of the owner of the

horse.

(10) "CPNC" means a valid permit or other document issued by the Bureau to a person or business for the purpose of operating a horse-drawn carriage trade enterprise.

(11) "Licensed veterinarian" means a person licensed to practice veterinary medicine and who specializes in equine or large animal medicine.

(12) "Operator" means the proprietor or the agent of a proprietor of a horse-drawn carriage trade enterprise or stable.

(13) "Owner" means a person who is vested with the ownership, control, or

title of a horse-drawn carriage trade, horse, or stable.

(14) "Person" means an individual, firm, partnership, association, or group or combination acting in concert, whether as a principal, employer, employee, agent servant, trustee, fiduciary, receiver, or any other type of legal or personal representative.

(15) "Police officer" means a sworn member of the Atlanta Police Department.

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